

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0001] at page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/884,975, filed June 21, 2002 Patent No. 6,621,063.

Please replace paragraph [0046] at page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

[0046] Fig. 4b illustrates the imaging system depicted in Fig. 4a as a three-dimensional depiction. Fig. 4b shows an imaging system utilizing a Scheimpflug arrangement for achieving large depths-of-field at low f-numbers for reading optical codes using a tilted imaging array. The array 413, ~~is~~ 413 is a two-dimensional array of photodetectors as is typically employed in a CCD, CMOS, or other imaging sensor. A few of the many rows of photodetectors that make up the array are labeled 415, 420, and 425. As can be seen from Fig. 4b, the imaging array 413 has been tilted in one direction about the optical axis 410. The tilt angle  $\alpha$ , lens focal length, aperture setting, and imaging array resolution may be selected to obtain the desired characteristics of depth-of-field and scan line width at a certain distance from the lens system 412. When the imaging array 413 is tilted, the corresponding object plane 404 on the opposite side of the lens system 412 also tilts according to the Scheimpflug condition, whereby the sensor plane 403, the lens system plane 402, and the object plane 404 all intersect in a common line 405. With sufficient sensor tilt, the object plane will be substantially parallel to the optical axis. The shaded region 465 represents the

projection of the image sensor 413 through the lens system 412 onto the object plane 404. As with a typical imaging system, points in image space which are closer to the lens will be projected farther from the lens in object space. Thus, the top end of the image sensor 484 corresponds or is conjugate to the bottom end of the projected image 494. Similarly, the bottom end of the sensor 485 is conjugate to sensor image 495. In the same manner, the line or row of photodetectors 415 corresponds to the image of this line 445 in front of the lens system; the row of photodetectors 420 corresponds to the image of this line 475 in front of the lens system; and the row of photodetectors 425 corresponds to the image of this line 476 in front of the lens system. An optical code, such as 440 will be in focus on this line of photodetectors when it is in the position shown.